



Icknield Community College

Headteacher: Mr Mat Hunter BA (Hons), MSc, NPQH
Love Lane, Watlington, Oxfordshire OX49 5RB



Newsletter: 24 February 2023

Date	Event
20 March	Year 8 & 9 HPV Immunisation catch-up session
30 March	Year 10 Parents'/Carers' Evening
31 March	End of Term
3-16 April	Easter Holiday
17 April	School Resumes "B" Week

TikTok School Protests and Riots

As you may already be aware, children across the country are being encouraged, through posts on TikTok, to carry out wide-scale protests and riots in schools across the UK.

Unfortunately, towards the end of last week, many schools across the country suffered from students flipping over tables in classrooms and refusing to attend their lessons, amongst other examples of poor behaviour.

Whilst I am sure this would not happen at Icknield, please could you reiterate, with your child, that such behaviour would never be tolerated and would always be met with the severe sanctions.

Any of our students are welcome, at any point, to raise any suggestions or concerns they have peacefully with any member of staff or elected members of the student council.

I recognise that on Thursday, Icknield Community College will be fully open on the NEU strike day, as per my letter to you all earlier in the week. It may well be that some students feel that this is unfair when other schools in the local area, and indeed nationally, may well be closed. I hope that you are happy as parents that we are able to stay open on this occasion and I hope that you are able to explain to your child that this is a positive outcome.

Thank you in advance for your support here.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Year 9 Guided Choices

Students will need to confirm their KS4 subject choices for the next academic year to us by **Friday 3 March** please. The process is straightforward: they need to use the attached *Guided Choices Application Form* to view the teaching blocks that we use to organise our timetable. They then click on the link to go from that document to a Microsoft Form and it just takes a couple of minutes for them to let us know the subjects that they would like to study.

They will also find the *Guided Choices Booklet* useful, as it will answer questions about our courses (or provide the contact details for the members of staff who can answer any questions that they still have). A video to explain all of the above and more can still be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/XXR9o-evzxU>

Matt Ford

CAMHS Webinar for Parents

The CAMHS In-Reach service have delivered 2 webinars so far across this year to offer support to parents. The date for the third and final webinar in the series is below. The webinar will be delivered from 7-8pm. If you would be interested in attending, please email Lisa Best (lisa.best@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk). Closer to the event, we will distribute the link to join the webinar.

20th April 2023 - Supporting Young people who self-harm: This session will be a chance for parents to gain a greater understanding around self-harm, how to have conversations with young people and strategies for practical support.

Vicky Pickford

Social Media Round-Up

This week's social media posts have included glimpses of strong towers under construction at Science Club, of Year 11s hard at work revising joint movements and antagonistic muscle pairs in PE, and of work from our Year 7s exploring Elizabeth I's careful control of her own image and symbols. Back on 3 February, I reported that we had 1,855 followers across Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Three weeks on, that number's creeping steadily towards the 2,000 mark. Can you help us by retweeting, sharing and liking our posts in the coming week? Please encourage your contacts to follow our @IcknielCC accounts to see more of the ways in which Ickniel students learn, explore, engage and contribute.

Robert Legg

Maths Problem of the Week

The Maths Problem of the Week and the solution to last week's problem are attached.

Nick Owen

Intermediate Maths Challenge

At the beginning of February, 120 Y9, Y10 and Y11 students took part on the Intermediate Maths Challenge, which consists of 25 very stretching questions to be answered in an hour. The total number of students taking the challenge in the UK and overseas was 209,725.

Silver awards were achieved by 16 of our students and a further 34 students received bronze awards. The best in year award for Y9 went jointly to Zack Costello and Gabriel Hope, and for Y11 went to Rye Holmes.

The best in school and a gold award went to Ivy Uhart (Y10). Gold awards are only made to the top 8% of all students so this was an outstanding performance by Ivy.

Nick Owen

The Oxwell Study

We have been invited to take part in a study run by the Oxwell Study Team who are part of Oxford University. The Oxwell study are investigating student health and wellbeing by asking students to complete an online survey. This is something that they will do as part of their Citizenship lessons and it will run from 27th February to 10th March 2023. Please refer to the attached Oxwell Survey letter to Parents along with the information sheet for details.

If for any reason you do not wish your child to take part please could you email:

office.4082@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk.

Jane Bellars

10X Challenge

We're very excited to be offering students the opportunity to apply to participate in the 10X Challenge. This is a national competition for young people aged 11 – 19 years, which runs from Monday 27th February to Friday 24th March. Successful teams will receive £10.00 start-up capital to launch a business! After repaying the £10 investment, and £1 legacy contribution, students will be able to keep any profits they make, or may choose to donate them to charity.

In order to participate, students should collect an application form and parental consent letter from Dr Hicks, Room 10.

We're really looking forward to seeing students' develop their enterprise skills and create their own companies. Please do support and encourage them!

Jen Hicks

DofE

A reminder that the deadline for all students to submit their section details, as well as photo evidence that they have started each of their sections, was **Jan 31st**. Any student who has not yet met this deadline should upload these as soon as possible.

After school training for the Bronze expeditions continues after school on **Tuesdays at 3-4pm**. Silver expedition training will take place on Thursday 13th April. The expedition information evening will be on Tuesday 28th March at 6pm in the hall

Any student who has reached the end of their 3-month section should ask their adult assessor to write a short report and upload this evidence to their account. An Assessor's report can be added using the report card from your welcome pack or via www.dofe.org/assessor

Well done to Aidan B (Volunteering), Millie O (Physical) who have submitted some of their section information.

Congratulations to Archie D (Skill), Sam F (Physical), Aidan B (Skill), Matilda T (Volunteering), Millie O (Physical) who have started submitting their evidence for their sections!

A special congratulations to Nikita S P, Isabella G-H, Holly C who have submitted evidence for all 3 of their sections!

Katie Scane

PE News

Please read the attached document where you will find:

- A reminder about **Clubs** for this term
- **Results** from this week
- All of the **fixtures for next week**

Matt Mures

Temporary Bus Passes

Temporary bus passes will not be issued at the end of the school day. If your child requires a temporary bus pass, they will need to obtain this from Reception at break or lunch.

If a bus pass has been lost, you will need to obtain a new one. The school is not allowed to keep issuing temporary bus passes.

Gill Ward

COMMUNITY NEWS

Maths Tutor Direct

Improve your child's grades with Maths Tutor Direct!

Need Support with Maths Tutoring? Look no further!

Engaging maths sessions in the comfort of your own home with **Maths Tutor Direct**.

We support students at **Key Stage 3 & GCSE maths**. With the best maths qualifications, your options expand! Weekly prices start at just **£15**.

Enrol on your first session for FREE by following:

<https://mathstutordirect.class4kids.co.uk/>

www.mathstutordirect.co.uk

info@mathstutordirect.co.uk

07917 727 555

Aspire, achieve, gain confidence in maths

This is a personal business and has no affiliation with the school.

Adrian Thomas

Rainbow Corner Day Nursery – Kitchen Staff Required

We require someone to run our Nursery Kitchen on Mondays from May 2023. We also require a flexible supply cook to step in when our kitchen staff are off unwell/annual leave. Please see our poster attached to this newsletter for further information and contact details.

Debbie Hemmins